



# Research in Germany

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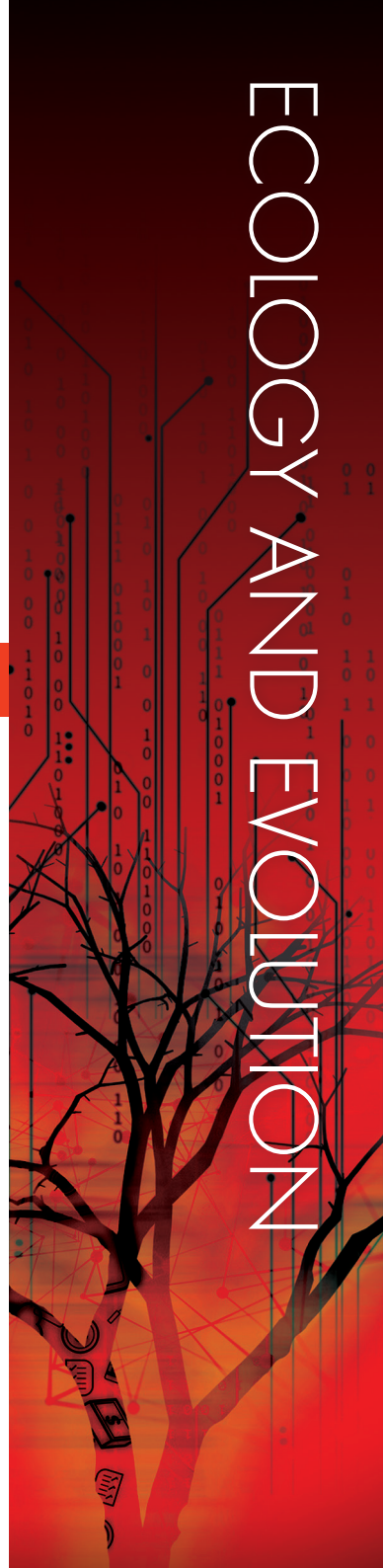
Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research

Research in  
Germany



Land of Ideas

# ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION





# Research in Germany

## **Imprint**

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## PREFACE

This brochure provides a first insight into research in Germany in the fields of ecology and evolution and is especially recommended to early career researchers from abroad.

Ecology and evolution research in Germany is primarily conducted at universities but also at non-university research institutions. Almost all universities and many universities of applied sciences host ecology and evolution research sections. The spectrum ranges from small monothematic working groups to large interdisciplinary departments and covers a variety of topics from traditional areas to new explorative research fields.














This brochure is intended to give an initial overview. The following map and tables highlight research consortia and graduate training programmes at universities and non-university research institutes with a main focus on ecology and evolution.

On top of this, there is a lot more to discover: e.g. the DFG funds a multitude of individual projects in the area of ecology and evolution. These individual grants outweigh the research consortia both in number and in overall funding volume. Towards the end of this brochure, you will find a link to the online database GEPRIS that provides an overview of all DFG-funded research projects. You will also find additional important links for further information about programmes in the fields of ecology and evolution and profiles of German universities and research institutions.

We invite you to explore the many opportunities that Germany has to offer and welcome your feedback.

# OVERVIEW



 Research Training Groups	 Helmholtz Graduate Schools
 International Research Training Groups	 Leibniz Graduate Schools
 Integrated Research Training Groups in Collaborative Research Centres/Transregios	 International Max Planck Research Schools
 DFG Research Centres	 Helmholtz Centres
 Clusters of Excellence	 Leibniz Institutes
 Collaborative Research Centres/Transregios	 Max Planck Institutes
	 Others

DFG-funded Priority Programmes and Research Units are not shown on the map since they are not necessarily located at a single location; they are listed on pages 12 and 14.  
The map shows the headquarters of the non-university research institutions.

# CENTRES OF RESEARCH

- FUNDED BY DFG -

**Clusters of Excellence (EXC)** promote cutting-edge research. They serve to strengthen the research profiles of universities or university consortia in internationally competitive fields. They create excellent training and career opportunities for early career researchers. Within the framework of the Excellence Strategy, they can receive between €3 million and €10 million annually and are funded for seven years, starting in 2019. A second seven-year period is possible.

**DFG Research Centres (FZT)** are a strategic funding instrument to concentrate scientific research competence in particularly innovative fields and create temporary, internationally visible research priorities at research universities. The thematic focus must incorporate a high degree of interdisciplinary cooperation. They are open for cooperation with partners from other research institutes, industry, associations and public institutions. The centres offer excellent working conditions for early career researchers and a framework for interdisciplinary cooperation. Unlike the clusters of excellence, DFG Research Centres are set up in response to thematic calls issued by the DFG. They have a maximum funding period of 12 years.

**Collaborative Research Centres (CRC)** are organisational units established at universities which enable researchers to pursue an outstanding research programme crossing the boundaries of disciplines, institutes, departments and faculties. The traditional Collaborative Research Centre is generally applied for by one university and is conducted by researchers of that university. Early career support is a key objective of the Collaborative Research Centre Programme. Early career researchers may get involved in a CRC in numerous ways, for example within the framework of an Integrated Research Training Group. Collaborative Research Centres are funded for a period of up to 12 years.

**Transregios (TRR)** are Collaborative Research Centres in which up to three universities collaborate with each other and submit a joint application. The contributions of the cooperative partners are essential, complementary and synergetic to the joint research objective. Funding facilitates close, nationwide collaboration among the participating universities and researchers, as well as networking and shared use of resources. There is also the option of international Transregios.

## CENTRES OF RESEARCH

Location	Institution	Title	Funded Since	Contact
CLUSTERS OF EXCELLENCE				
 Bremen	Universität Bremen	The Ocean Floor – Earth’s Uncharted Interface (EXC 2077)	2019	www.marum.de
 Düsseldorf	Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf	CEPLAS Cluster of Excellence on Plant Sciences – SMART Plants for Tomorrow’s Needs (EXC 2048)	2019	www.ceplas.eu
 Konstanz	Universität Konstanz	Centre for the Advanced Study of Collective Behaviour (EXC 2117)	2019	www.exc.uni-konstanz.de/collective-behaviour
DFG RESEARCH CENTRES				
 Halle/Saale Jena Leipzig	Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena Universität Leipzig	German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research – iDiv (FZT 118)	2012	www.idiv.de
COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH CENTRES				
 Berlin	Freie Universität Berlin	Priming and Memory of Organismic Responses to Stress (CRC 973)	2012	www.sfb973.de
 Cologne	Universität zu Köln	Predictability in Evolution (CRC 1310)	2017	http://crc1310.uni-koeln.de
 Göttingen	Georg-August-Universität Göttingen	Ecological and Socioeconomic Functions of Tropical Lowland Rainforest Transformation Systems (Sumatra, Indonesia) (CRC 990)	2012	www.uni-goettingen.de/de/310995.html
 Jena	Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena	Chemical Mediators in Complex Biosystems (CRC 1127)	2014	www.chembiosys.de/en
 Jena	Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena	AquaDiva: Understanding the Links Between Surface and Subsurface Biogeosphere (CRC 1076)	2013	www.aquadiva.uni-jena.de
 Kiel	Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel	Origin and Function of Metaorganisms (CRC 1182)	2016	www.metaorganism-research.com
 Marburg	Philipps-Universität Marburg	Microbial Diversity in Environmental Signal Response (CRC 987)	2012	http://sfb987.de

CENTRES OF RESEARCH

Location	Institution	Title	Funded Since	Contact
Munich	Technische Universität München	Molecular Mechanisms Regulating Yield and Yield Stability in Plants (CRC 924)	2011	<a href="http://sfb924.wzw.tum.de">http://sfb924.wzw.tum.de</a>
Tübingen	Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen	Molecular Encoding of Specificity in Plant Processes (CRC 1101)	2014	<a href="http://www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/research/core-research/collaborative-research-centers/sfb-1101.html">www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/research/core-research/collaborative-research-centers/sfb-1101.html</a>
COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH CENTRES/TRANSREGIOS				
Berlin Kaiserslautern Munich	Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin Technische Universität Kaiserslautern Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München	The Green Hub – Central Coordinator of Acclimation in Plants (TRR 175)	2016	<a href="http://www.tr175.bio.lmu.de">www.tr175.bio.lmu.de</a>
Bielefeld Münster	Universität Bielefeld Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster	A Novel Synthesis of Individualisation across Behaviour, Ecology and Evolution: Niche Choice, Niche Conformance, Niche Construction (NC3) (TRR 212)	2017	<a href="http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/biologie/crc212">www.uni-bielefeld.de/biologie/crc212</a>
Bonn Cologne	Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn Universität zu Köln	Future Rural Africa: Future-Making and Social-Ecological Transformation (TRR 228)	2017	<a href="http://www.crc228.de">www.crc228.de</a>
Braunschweig Oldenburg	Technische Universität Braunschweig Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg	Ecology, Physiology and Molecular Biology of the Roseobacter Clade: Towards a Systems Biology Understanding of a Globally Important Clade of Marine Bacteria (TRR 51)	2010	<a href="http://www.tu-braunschweig.de/en/brics/forschung/roseobacter">www.tu-braunschweig.de/en/brics/forschung/roseobacter</a>



## RESEARCH UNITS

-FUNDED BY DFG-

**Research Units (FOR)** often contribute to establishing new research directions. Research Units are made up of a team of researchers working together on a research project which is often of an interdisciplinary nature. Research Units consist of several researchers and subprojects. The subprojects of a Research Unit are often located at several locations throughout Germany. Research Units are generally funded for up to six years.

Research Units are not shown on the map. Only the titles of the thematic focus and the project websites are listed.



## RESEARCH UNITS

Title	Funded Since	Contact
Plant-microbe Communication Through exRNA: Systems-level Approaches to Explore Molecular Mechanisms and Agronomic Applications (FOR 5116)	2020	<a href="https://gepris.dfg.de/gepris/projekt/433194101">https://gepris.dfg.de/gepris/projekt/433194101</a>
The Role of Nature for Human Well-being in the Kilimanjaro Social-Ecological System (Kili-SES) (FOR 5064)	2020	<a href="https://gepris.dfg.de/gepris/projekt/428658210">https://gepris.dfg.de/gepris/projekt/428658210</a>
Integrating Insect Immunity, Microbiota and Pathogens (FOR 5026)	2020	<a href="https://gepris.dfg.de/gepris/projekt/425876005">https://gepris.dfg.de/gepris/projekt/425876005</a>
Ecology and Evolution of Intraspecific Chemodiversity in Plants (FOR 3000)	2020	<a href="http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/fakultaeten/biologie/forschung/verbuende/chemodiversity/">www.uni-bielefeld.de/fakultaeten/biologie/forschung/verbuende/chemodiversity/</a>
Biotic Interactions, Community Assembly, and Eco-Evolutionary Dynamics as Drivers of Long-Term Biodiversity-Ecosystem Functioning Relationships (FOR 5000)	2019	<a href="https://gepris.dfg.de/gepris/projekt/422440326">https://gepris.dfg.de/gepris/projekt/422440326</a>
Spatial Community Ecology in Highly Dynamic Landscapes: From Island Biogeography to Metaecosystems [DynaCom] (FOR 2716)	2018	<a href="https://uol.de/en/icbm/collaborative-projects/dynacom/">https://uol.de/en/icbm/collaborative-projects/dynacom/</a>
Agricultural Land Markets - Efficiency and Regulation (FOR 2569)	2016	<a href="http://www.forland.hu-berlin.de/en/institut-en/departments/daoe/forland">www.forland.hu-berlin.de/en/institut-en/departments/daoe/forland</a>
Proteogenomics of Marine Polysaccharide Utilization (POMPU) (FOR 2406)	2016	<a href="http://www.pompu-project.de">www.pompu-project.de</a>
Mountain Exile Hypothesis: How Humans Benefited from and Re-Shaped African High Altitude Ecosystems during Quaternary Climatic Changes (FOR 2358)	2016	<a href="http://www.landw.uni-halle.de/prof/bodenbiogeochemie/forschung/projekte/for_2358">www.landw.uni-halle.de/prof/bodenbiogeochemie/forschung/projekte/for_2358</a> (DE)
Severity Assessment in Animal Based Research (FOR 2591)	2016	<a href="https://severity-assessment.de/">https://severity-assessment.de/</a>
Social-Ecological Systems in the Indian Rural-Urban Interface: Functions, Scales, and Dynamics of Transition (FOR 2432)	2015	<a href="http://www.uni-kassel.de/fb11/agr/en/sections/home/for2432.html">www.uni-kassel.de/fb11/agr/en/sections/home/for2432.html</a>
Denitrification in Agricultural Soils: Integrated Control and Modelling at Various Scales (DASIM) (FOR 2337)	2015	<a href="http://www.thuenen.de/en/ak/projects/dasim/">www.thuenen.de/en/ak/projects/dasim/</a>
Sociality and the Reversal of the Fecundity-Longevity Trade-Off (FOR 2281)	2015	<a href="http://gepris.dfg.de/gepris/projekt/261675780">http://gepris.dfg.de/gepris/projekt/261675780</a>
MAD Soil – Microaggregates: Formation and Turnover of the Structural Building Blocks of Soils (FOR 2179)	2015	<a href="http://www.madsoil.uni-jena.de">www.madsoil.uni-jena.de</a>
Sociality and Health in Primates (FOR 2136)	2014	<a href="http://www.sohapi.de">www.sohapi.de</a>
Biogenesis of Thylakoid Membranes: Spatiotemporal Organization of Photosynthetic Protein Complex Assembly (FOR 2092)	2014	<a href="http://www.uni-kl.de/for2092/">www.uni-kl.de/for2092/</a>
The Forgotten Part of Carbon Cycling: Organic Matter Storage and Turnover in Subsoils (SUBSOM) (FOR 1806)	2013	<a href="http://www.subsom.de">www.subsom.de</a>

# PRIORITY PROGRAMMES

- FUNDED BY DFG -

**Priority Programmes (SPP)** have a programmatic focus and the purpose of advancing knowledge in an emerging field of research through collaborative networked support. They are characterised by their enhanced quality of research through the use of new methods and forms of collaboration in emerging fields. As a rule, one programme can consist of up to 30 individual subprojects located at several institutions across Germany; it usually has one coordinating person. Priority Programmes normally receive funding for a period of up to six years.

Priority Programmes are not shown on the map. Only the titles of the overall themes and the project website are listed.



## PRIORITY PROGRAMMES

Title	Funded From	Contact
MAdLand – Molecular Adaptation to Land: Plant Evolution to Change (SPP 2237)	2020	<a href="http://madland.science">http://madland.science</a>
Deconstruction and Reconstruction of the Plant Microbiota (DECrypT) (SPP 2125)	2018	<a href="http://www.ag-zuccaro.botanik.uni-koeln.de/decrypt.html">www.ag-zuccaro.botanik.uni-koeln.de/decrypt.html</a>
Rhizosphere Spatiotemporal Organisation – A Key to Rhizosphere Functions (SPP 2089)	2018	<a href="http://www.ufz.de/spp-rhizosphere">www.ufz.de/spp-rhizosphere</a>
Taxon-Omics: New Approaches for Discovering and Naming Biodiversity (SPP 1991)	2017	<a href="http://www.taxon-omics.com/">www.taxon-omics.com/</a>
Rapid Evolutionary Adaptation: Potential and Constraints (SPP 1819)	2015	<a href="https://dfg-spp1819.uni-hohenheim.de">https://dfg-spp1819.uni-hohenheim.de</a>
Flexibility Matters: Interplay between Trait Diversity and Ecological Dynamics Using Aquatic Communities as Model Systems (DynaTrait) (SPP 1704)	2014	<a href="http://www.dynatrait.de">www.dynatrait.de</a>
Ecosystem Nutrition: Forest Strategies for Limited Phosphorus Resources (SPP 1685)	2013	<a href="http://www.ecosystem-nutrition.uni-freiburg.de">www.ecosystem-nutrition.uni-freiburg.de</a>
Ecology and Species Barriers in Emerging Viral Diseases (SPP 1596)	2013	<a href="http://www.uni-bonn.de/forschung/Drittmittel%20und%20Projekte/schwerpunktprogramme/n.n">www.uni-bonn.de/forschung/Drittmittel%20und%20Projekte/schwerpunktprogramme/n.n</a>
Probabilistic Structures in Evolution (SPP 1590)	2012	<a href="http://www.dfg-spp1590.de">www.dfg-spp1590.de</a>
Biodiversity Exploratories – Functional Biodiversity Research (SPP 1374)	2007	<a href="http://www.biodiversity-exploratories.de">www.biodiversity-exploratories.de</a>
Antarctic Research with Comparable Investigations in Arctic Sea Ice Areas (SPP 1158)	2003	<a href="http://www.spp-antarktisforschung.uni-rostock.de/en/">www.spp-antarktisforschung.uni-rostock.de/en/</a>





# NON-UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

**The Helmholtz Association** contributes to solving major challenges facing society, science and industry with world-level research in six areas: energy, earth and environment, health, key technologies, structure of matter and aeronautics, space and transport. With more than 40,000 employees in 19 research centres and an annual budget of approximately 4.8 billion euros, the Helmholtz Association is Germany's largest scientific organisation. [www.helmholtz.de](http://www.helmholtz.de)

**The Leibniz Association** is an umbrella organisation of 95 research institutes. The annual budget amounts to 1.9 billion euros. Some 11,500 researchers – approximately 25% of them from abroad – work on a widely diverse range of subjects, including the humanities and social sciences, economics, spatial and life sciences, mathematics, natural and engineering sciences and environmental research. [www.leibniz-association.eu](http://www.leibniz-association.eu)

**The Max Planck Society** for the Advancement of Science is one of Germany's largest independent non-profit research organisations. A combined total of more than 15,300 researchers, postdoctoral/junior researchers and visiting researchers at 86 Max Planck Institutes conduct basic research in the natural sciences, life sciences, social sciences and humanities. [www.mpg.de](http://www.mpg.de)

## NON-UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

Location	Institution	Contact
HELMHOLTZ CENTRES		
● Braunschweig	Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI)	<a href="http://www.helmholtz-hzi.de/en">www.helmholtz-hzi.de/en</a>
● Bremerhaven	Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI)	<a href="http://www.awi.de">www.awi.de</a>
● Geesthacht	Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht – Centre for Materials and Coastal Research (HZG)	<a href="http://www.hzg.de">www.hzg.de</a>
● Jülich	Forschungszentrum Jülich (FZ Jülich)	<a href="http://www.fz-juelich.de">www.fz-juelich.de</a>
● Kiel	GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel	<a href="http://www.geomar.de/en">www.geomar.de/en</a>
● Leipzig	Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ)	<a href="http://www.ufz.de">www.ufz.de</a>
● Munich	Helmholtz Zentrum München – German Research Center for Environmental Health	<a href="http://www.helmholtz-muenchen.de">www.helmholtz-muenchen.de</a>
● Oldenburg	Helmholtz Institute for Functional Marine Biodiversity at the University of Oldenburg (HIFMB)	<a href="http://hifmb.de/en">http://hifmb.de/en</a>
● Potsdam	Helmholtz Centre Potsdam – GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences	<a href="http://www.gfz-potsdam.de">www.gfz-potsdam.de</a>
LEIBNIZ INSTITUTES		
● Berlin	Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries (IGB)	<a href="http://www.igb-berlin.de/en">www.igb-berlin.de/en</a>
● Berlin	Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research (IZW)	<a href="http://www.izw-berlin.de">www.izw-berlin.de</a>
● Berlin	Museum für Naturkunde – Leibniz Institute for Evolution and Biodiversity Science (MfN)	<a href="http://www.naturkunde-museum-berlin.de/en">www.naturkunde-museum-berlin.de/en</a>
● Bonn	Zoological Research Museum Alexander Koenig – Leibniz Institute for Animal Biodiversity (ZFMK)	<a href="http://www.zfmk.de/en/zfmk">www.zfmk.de/en/zfmk</a>
● Borstel	Research Center Borstel – Leibniz Center for Medicine and Biosciences (FZB)	<a href="https://fz-borstel.de/index.php/en/">https://fz-borstel.de/index.php/en/</a>
● Braunschweig	Leibniz Institute DSMZ – German Collection of Microorganisms and Cell Cultures (DSMZ)	<a href="http://www.dsmz.de">www.dsmz.de</a>
● Bremen	Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT)	<a href="http://www.zmt-bremen.de">www.zmt-bremen.de</a>
● Dummerstorf	Leibniz Institute for Farm Animal Biology (FBN)	<a href="http://www.fbn-dummerstorf.de">www.fbn-dummerstorf.de</a>
● Frankfurt/Main	Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung (SGN)	<a href="http://www.senckenberg.de">www.senckenberg.de</a>
● Gatersleben	Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research (IPK)	<a href="http://www.ipk-gatersleben.de/en">www.ipk-gatersleben.de/en</a>
● Göttingen	German Primate Center – Leibniz Institute for Primate Research (DPZ)	<a href="http://www.dpz.eu/en">www.dpz.eu/en</a>
● Halle/Saale	Leibniz Institute of Plant Biochemistry (IPB)	<a href="http://www.ipb-halle.de/en">www.ipb-halle.de/en</a>
● Hamburg	Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine (BNITM)	<a href="http://www.bnitm.de/en">www.bnitm.de/en</a>

NON-UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

Location	Institution	Contact
● Hamburg	Heinrich Pette Institute – Leibniz Institute for Experimental Virology (HPI)	<a href="http://www.hpi-hamburg.de/en">www.hpi-hamburg.de/en</a>
● Jena	Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology – Hans Knöll Institute (HKI)	<a href="http://www.hki-jena.de">www.hki-jena.de</a>
● Müncheberg	Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF)	<a href="http://www.zalf.de">www.zalf.de</a>
● Potsdam	Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK)	<a href="http://www.pik-potsdam.de">www.pik-potsdam.de</a>
● Warnemünde	Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde (IOW)	<a href="http://www.io-warnemuende.de">www.io-warnemuende.de</a>
<b>MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUTES</b>		
● Bremen	Max Planck Institute for Marine Microbiology	<a href="http://www.mpi-bremen.de">www.mpi-bremen.de</a>
● Cologne	Max Planck Institute for Biology of Ageing	<a href="http://www.age.mpg.de">www.age.mpg.de</a>
● Cologne	Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding Research	<a href="http://www.mpi-pz.mpg.de/en">www.mpi-pz.mpg.de/en</a>
● Jena	Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology	<a href="http://www.ice.mpg.de">www.ice.mpg.de</a>
● Jena	Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry	<a href="http://www.mps.mpg.de/en">www.mps.mpg.de/en</a>
● Leipzig	Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology	<a href="http://www.eva.mpg.de">www.eva.mpg.de</a>
● Marburg	Max Planck Institute for Terrestrial Microbiology	<a href="http://www.mpi-marburg.mpg.de">www.mpi-marburg.mpg.de</a>
● Plön	Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Biology	<a href="http://www.evolbio.mpg.de">www.evolbio.mpg.de</a>
● Potsdam - Golm	Max Planck Institute for Molecular Plant Physiology	<a href="http://www.mpimp-golm.mpg.de">www.mpimp-golm.mpg.de</a>
● Radolfzell	Max Planck Institute for Ornithology, Vogelwarte Radolfzell	<a href="http://www.orn.mpg.de/en">www.orn.mpg.de/en</a>
● Seewiesen	Max Planck Institute for Ornithology	<a href="http://www.orn.mpg.de/en">www.orn.mpg.de/en</a>
● Tübingen	Max Planck Institute for Developmental Biology	<a href="http://www.eb.tuebingen.mpg.de">www.eb.tuebingen.mpg.de</a>
<b>OTHERS</b>		
● Berlin	Berlin-Brandenburg Institute of Advanced Biodiversity Research (BBIB)	<a href="http://www.bbib.org">www.bbib.org</a>
● Braunschweig	Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute – Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas, Forestry and Fisheries	<a href="http://www.thuenen.de/en">www.thuenen.de/en</a>
● Greifswald - Insel Riems	Friedrich-Löffler-Institut – Federal Research Institute for Animal Health (FLI)	<a href="http://www.fli.de/en/home">www.fli.de/en/home</a>
● Karlsruhe	State Museum of Natural History Karlsruhe	<a href="http://www.smnk.de/en/museum/">www.smnk.de/en/museum/</a>
● Munich	Bavarian State Collection of Zoology (ZSM)	<a href="http://www.zsm.mwn.de/e/">www.zsm.mwn.de/e/</a>
● Quedlingburg	Julius Kühn Institute – Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants (JKI)	<a href="http://www.julius-kuehn.de/en">www.julius-kuehn.de/en</a>

NON-UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

Location	Institution	Contact
● Stuttgart	Stuttgart State Museum of Natural History	<a href="https://naturkundemuseum-bw.de/en/">https://naturkundemuseum-bw.de/en/</a>



# GRADUATE TRAINING












- FUNDED BY DFG -

**Research Training Groups (RTG)** combine an ambitious research programme at universities with comprehensive training, tailored supervision and academic freedom to form an ideal environment for a successful doctorate. Research Training Groups can also have an interdisciplinary approach. They are funded for a period of up to nine years.








**International Research Training Groups (IRTG)** provide opportunities for joint doctoral training programmes between German universities and universities abroad. The research and study programmes are jointly developed and supervised. Doctoral students in the programme spend six months at the partner institution.

**Integrated Research Training Groups** (within Collaborative Research Centres/Transregios) offer ideal research environments for doctoral researchers. The main aim of these structured training programmes is to provide young scientists and academics with opportunities to independently carry out research at an early stage of their career. The programmes further take care to closely integrate early career researchers into an academic network. Working in Clusters of Excellence or Collaborative Research Centres projects, doctoral researchers achieve additional qualifications. As research assistants in these projects, they contribute to the Research Centre's success. They are closely involved with the projects and have access to the entire project infrastructure.

## GRADUATE TRAINING

Location	Institution	Title	Funded Since	Contact
RESEARCH TRAINING GROUPS				
 Freiburg	Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg	Conservation of Forest Biodiversity in Multiple-Use Landscapes of Central Europe (ConFoBi) (RTG 2123)	2016	<a href="http://confobi.uni-freiburg.de">http://confobi.uni-freiburg.de</a>
 Göttingen	Georg-August-Universität Göttingen	Scaling in Statistics (RTG 1644)	2010	<a href="http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/156579.html">www.uni-goettingen.de/en/156579.html</a>
 Göttingen	Georg-August-Universität Göttingen	Understanding Social Relationships (RTG 2070)	2015	<a href="http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/509586.html">www.uni-goettingen.de/en/509586.html</a>
 Göttingen	Georg-August-Universität Göttingen	Enrichment of European Beech Forests with Conifers: Impacts of Functional Traits on Ecosystem Functioning (RTG 2300)	2017	<a href="http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/574316.html">www.uni-goettingen.de/en/574316.html</a>
 Greifswald	Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-Universität Greifswald	Biological Responses to Novel and Changing Environments (RTG 2010)	2015	<a href="https://biologie.uni-greifswald.de/forschung/dfg-graduiertenkollegs/research-training-group-2010/">https://biologie.uni-greifswald.de/forschung/dfg-graduiertenkollegs/research-training-group-2010/</a>
 Hamburg	Universität Hamburg	Biota-mediated Effects on Carbon Cycling in Estuaries (BiCEst) (RTG 2530)	2020	<a href="http://www.biologie.uni-hamburg.de/en/forschung/grk2530-bicest.html">www.biologie.uni-hamburg.de/en/forschung/grk2530-bicest.html</a>
 Hannover	Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Universität Hannover	Signaling at the Plant-Soil Interface (RTG 1798)	2013	<a href="http://www.psi.uni-hannover.de">www.psi.uni-hannover.de</a>
 Kiel	Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel	Translational Evolutionary Research (RTG 2501)	2020	<a href="https://transevo.de/">https://transevo.de/</a>
 Konstanz	Universität Konstanz	R3 – Responses to Biotic and Abiotic Changes, Resilience and Reversibility of Lake Ecosystems (RTG 2272)	2017	<a href="http://www.rtg-resilience.uni-konstanz.de">www.rtg-resilience.uni-konstanz.de</a>
 Mainz	Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz	GenEvo – Gene Regulation in Evolution: From Molecular to Extended Phenotypes (RTG 2526)	2019	<a href="http://www.imb.de/about-imb/joint-research-initiatives/genevo">www.imb.de/about-imb/joint-research-initiatives/genevo</a>
 Münster	Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster	Evolutionary Processes in Adaptation and Disease (EvoPAD) (RTG 2220)	2017	<a href="http://www.uni-muenster.de/EvoPAD">www.uni-muenster.de/EvoPAD</a>

## GRADUATE TRAINING

Location	Institution	Title	Funded Since	Contact
 Potsdam	Universität Potsdam	<b>Integrating Biodiversity Research with Movement Ecology in Dynamic Agricultural Landscapes (BioMove) (RTG 2118)</b>	2015	<a href="http://www.biomove.org">www.biomove.org</a>
 Rostock	Universität Rostock	<b>The German Baltic Sea Coast as Terrestrial-Marine Interface of Water and Matter Fluxes (Baltic TRANSCOAST) (RTG 2000)</b>	2015	<a href="http://www.baltic-transcoast.uni-rostock.de">www.baltic-transcoast.uni-rostock.de</a>
 Tübingen	Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen	<b>Molecular Principles of Bacterial Survival Strategies (RTG 1708)</b>	2012	<a href="http://www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/research/core-research/research-training-groups/grk-1708.html">www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/research/core-research/research-training-groups/grk-1708.html</a>
INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH TRAINING GROUPS				
 Düsseldorf	Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf	<b>Network, Exchange, and Training Program to Understand Plant Resource Allocation (NEXTplant) (IRTG 2466)</b>	2019	<a href="http://www.igrad-plant.hhu.de/research.html">www.igrad-plant.hhu.de/research.html</a>
East Lansing (United States)	Michigan State University			
 Göttingen Vancouver (Canada)	Georg-August-Universität Göttingen University of British Columbia	<b>PRoTECT – Plant Responses To Eliminate Critical Threats (IRTG 2172)</b>	2016	<a href="http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/529150.html">www.uni-goettingen.de/en/529150.html</a>
 Halle/Saale Jena Leipzig Beijing (China)	Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena Universität Leipzig Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Science	<b>Tree Diversity Interactions: The Role of Tree-Tree Interactions in Local Neighbourhoods in Chinese Subtropical Forests (IRTG 2324)</b>	2017	<a href="http://www.idiv.de/en/treedi.html">www.idiv.de/en/treedi.html</a>
 Stuttgart Beijing (China)	Universität Hohenheim China Agricultural University Beijing	<b>Adaptation of Maize-based Food-Feed-Energy Systems to Limited Phosphate Resources (IRTG 2366)</b>	2018	<a href="http://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/organization/institution/international-research-training-group-adaptation-of-maize-based-food-feed-energy-systems-to-limited-phosphate-resources">www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/organization/institution/international-research-training-group-adaptation-of-maize-based-food-feed-energy-systems-to-limited-phosphate-resources</a>

## GRADUATE TRAINING

Location	Institution	Title	Funded Since	Contact
INTEGRATED RESEARCH TRAINING GROUPS IN COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH CENTRES				
 Berlin	Freie Universität Berlin	<b>Integrated Research Training Group „Biocommunication: Mechanisms and Consequences of Information Storage and Retrieval in Plants and Microbes“ within: Priming and Memory of Organismic Responses to Stress (CRC 973)</b>	2012	<a href="http://www.sfb973.de/irtg">www.sfb973.de/irtg</a>
 Jena	Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena	<b>Integrated Research Training Group „AquaDiva“ within: AquaDiva: Understanding the Links Between Surface and Subsurface Biogeosphere (CRC 1076)</b>	2013	<a href="http://www.aquadiva.uni-jena.de/Graduate+school.html">www.aquadiva.uni-jena.de/Graduate+school.html</a>
 Marburg	Philipps-Universität Marburg	<b>Graduate School within: Microbial Diversity in Environmental Signal Response (CRC 987)</b>	2012	<a href="http://www.uni-marburg.de/en/sfb987/gradschool">www.uni-marburg.de/en/sfb987/gradschool</a>
INTEGRATED RESEARCH TRAINING GROUPS IN COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH CENTRES/ TRANSREGIOS				
 Bonn Cologne	Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn Universität zu Köln	<b>Integrated Research Training Group withing: Future Rural Africa: Future-Making and Social-Ecological Transformation (TRR 228)</b>	2017	<a href="http://www.crc228.de/projects/project_z04/">www.crc228.de/projects/project_z04/</a>
 Braunschweig Oldenburg	Technische Universität Braunschweig Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg	<b>Integrated Research Training Group within: Ecology, Physiology and Molecular Biology of the Roseobacter Clade: Towards a Systems Biology Understanding of a Globally Important Clade of Marine Bacteria (TRR 51)</b>	2010	<a href="https://www.tu-braunschweig.de/en/brics/forschung/roseobacter/traininggroup">https://www.tu-braunschweig.de/en/brics/forschung/roseobacter/traininggroup</a>

# GRADUATE TRAINING

## - AT NON-UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS -

**Helmholtz Graduate Schools** provide a roof under which a varied number of curricula in different fields, or across disciplines, can find a home. Helmholtz Graduate Schools constitute a valuable addition to the wide range of training programmes available within the Helmholtz Association. They offer optimal conditions for PhD students to work and enable them to create a network of contacts with fellow university researchers while also fostering the integration of participants into the research environment.

**Leibniz Graduate Schools** were established to foster the systematic promotion of junior researchers. Young researchers are given the opportunity to do their doctorates in an excellent, collaborative, cross-disciplinary research environment. To this end, Leibniz institutions cooperate closely with universities. As every Leibniz institution focuses on clearly defined, socially-relevant themes, doctoral candidates have a wealth of networking opportunities in a large, dedicated scientific community. The particular character of research at the institutions in the Leibniz Association, which includes fundamental, large-scale and application-oriented research, means doctoral candidates can conduct research from basic idea right through to application.

**International Max Planck Research Schools (IMPRS)** offer talented German and international junior scientists the opportunity to earn a doctorate under excellent research conditions. The research schools are established by one or several Max Planck Institutes. These IMPRS work in close cooperation with universities and other – sometimes international – research institutions. This provides an extraordinary framework for the graduate students to work in, and is a great advantage in interdisciplinary research projects, or in projects that require special equipment.

## GRADUATE TRAINING

Location	Title	Contact
HELMHOLTZ GRADUATE SCHOOLS		
○ Braunschweig	HZI International Graduate School for Infection Research (GS-FIRE)	<a href="http://www.helmholtz-hzi.de/en/career/graduate_school/application/">www.helmholtz-hzi.de/en/career/graduate_school/application/</a>
○ Bremerhaven	Helmholtz Graduate School for Polar and Marine Research (POLMAR)	<a href="http://polmar.awi.de">http://polmar.awi.de</a>
○ Leipzig	Helmholtz Interdisciplinary Graduate School for Environmental Research (HIGRADE)	<a href="http://www.ufz.de/higrade">www.ufz.de/higrade</a>
LEIBNIZ GRADUATE SCHOOLS		
○ Berlin Frankfurt Hamburg	Senckenberg Graduate School – International Multidisciplinary Parasitology and Vector Biology (IMPact-Vector)	<a href="http://www.impact-vector.de">www.impact-vector.de</a>
○ Berlin Müncheberg	AQUALINK International Leibniz Graduate School	<a href="http://www.igb-berlin.de/en/projekt/aqualink">www.igb-berlin.de/en/projekt/aqualink</a>
○ Bonn	Leibniz Graduate School on Genomic Biodiversity Research (GBR)	<a href="http://www.zfmk.de/en/research/research-centres-and-groups/graduate-school-gbr">www.zfmk.de/en/research/research-centres-and-groups/graduate-school-gbr</a>
○ Borstel Hamburg	Leibniz Graduate School "Infections"	<a href="http://www.lci-infection.de/lci-graduate-school.html">www.lci-infection.de/lci-graduate-school.html</a>
○ Bremen	Leibniz Graduate School Sustainable Use of Tropical Aquatic Systems (SUTAS)	<a href="http://www.leibniz-zmt.de/en/research/research-projects/sutas-graduate-school.html">www.leibniz-zmt.de/en/research/research-projects/sutas-graduate-school.html</a>
○ Göttingen	Leibniz Graduate School for Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDIS)	<a href="http://www.dpz.eu/en/career/graduate-training/emerging-infectious-diseases/leibniz-graduate-school-for-emerging-infectious-diseases-eidis.html">www.dpz.eu/en/career/graduate-training/emerging-infectious-diseases/leibniz-graduate-school-for-emerging-infectious-diseases-eidis.html</a>
○ Halle/Saale	IAMO Graduate School	<a href="http://www.iamo.de/en/young-talents/iamo-graduate-school/">www.iamo.de/en/young-talents/iamo-graduate-school/</a>
○ Jena	International Leibniz Research School for Microbial and Biomolecular Interactions (ILRS Jena)	<a href="http://www.ilrs.de">www.ilrs.de</a>
INTERNATIONAL MAX PLANCK RESEARCH SCHOOLS (IMPRS)		
○ Bremen	IMPRS of Marine Microbiology	<a href="http://www.marmic.mpg.de/marmic">www.marmic.mpg.de/marmic</a>
○ Cologne Düsseldorf	IMPRS on Understanding Complex Plant Traits using Computational and Evolutionary Approaches	<a href="http://www.mpipz.mpg.de/imprs">www.mpipz.mpg.de/imprs</a>

GRADUATE TRAINING

Location	Title	Contact
Leipzig	IMPRS "The Leipzig School of Human Origins"	<a href="http://www.leipzig-school.eva.mpg.de">www.leipzig-school.eva.mpg.de</a>
Marburg	IMPRS for Environmental, Cellular and Molecular Microbiology	<a href="http://www.imprs-marburg.de">www.imprs-marburg.de</a>
Plön	IMPRS for Evolutionary Biology	<a href="http://www.evolbio.mpg.de/imprs">www.evolbio.mpg.de/imprs</a>
Potsdam - Golm	IMPRS "Primary Metabolism and Plant Growth"	<a href="http://www.mpimp-golm.mpg.de/IMPRS-PhD">www.mpimp-golm.mpg.de/IMPRS-PhD</a>
Seewiesen	IMPRS for Organismal Biology	<a href="http://www.orn.mpg.de/2453/Short_portrait">www.orn.mpg.de/2453/Short_portrait</a>
Tübingen	IMPRS "From Molecules to Organisms"	<a href="http://imprs.tuebingen.mpg.de">http://imprs.tuebingen.mpg.de</a>



## OPEN POSITIONS

Research in Germany: [www.research-in-germany.org/jobs](http://www.research-in-germany.org/jobs)

Fraunhofer Society: [www.fraunhofer.de/en/jobs-and-career.html](http://www.fraunhofer.de/en/jobs-and-career.html)

Helmholtz Association: [www.helmholtz.de/en/jobs\\_talent](http://www.helmholtz.de/en/jobs_talent)

Leibniz Society: [www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/en/careers/jobs.html](http://www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/en/careers/jobs.html)

Max Planck Society: [www.mpg.de/jobboard](http://www.mpg.de/jobboard)

## FURTHER INFORMATION

RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS, PROJECTS, FUNDING, CONTACTS



**The “Research in Germany” Portal:** Information on research and funding opportunities, academic and research-related job portals, as well as advice on preparing a research stay or initiating a collaboration with German research organisations. [www.research-in-germany.org/en.html](http://www.research-in-germany.org/en.html)



**German Project Information System (GEPRIIS):** Online database providing information about all current DFG-funded research projects and contact information for the Principal Investigators. <http://gepris.dfg.de>



**German Research Institutions (GERIT):** Information on more than 25,000 institutes at German universities and non-university research institutions, searchable by geographic location, subject and other structural criteria. [www.gerit.org](http://www.gerit.org)



**Website of the DFG:** Further background information about DFG funding programmes, funding guidelines, and lists of currently DFG-funded activities. [www.dfg.de](http://www.dfg.de)



**The German Rectors’ Conference (HRK) Research Map:** The interactive HRK *Research Map* database provides information on the research priorities that are of strategic institutional importance for each university. [www.hrk.de/home](http://www.hrk.de/home) (go to →*Research Map*)



**The Higher Education Compass:** Information on Germany’s higher education institutions, the range of courses and programmes that they offer, their worldwide cooperation, and who to contact locally. [www.hochschulkompass.de/en/study-in-germany.html](http://www.hochschulkompass.de/en/study-in-germany.html)



## NOTES





## Contact

German Research Foundation (DFG)  
DFG Head Office Germany  
[www.dfg.de](http://www.dfg.de)  
[researchmarketing@dfg.de](mailto:researchmarketing@dfg.de)

**DFG** Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft